



**TACHC**  
Texas Association of Community Health Centers

**WEEKLY WRAP-UP**

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**IN THIS ISSUE**

**NEWS**

Registration Now Open for TACHC Annual Conference  
View the TACHC Historical Timeline  
Does Your Local Media Know About National Health Center Week?  
Welcome CEO Gerrie Teamer-Whitaker, North Texas Area Community Health Centers  
Houston Collaborative of FQHCs Participates in Remaining Uninsured Access to Health Centers (REACH) Research Project  
TACHC Employee Anniversaries

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Wrap Methodology Training Rescheduled for August 18 in Austin

**GROUP PURCHASING**

Office of Pharmacy Affairs 340B Registration Window Closes Today (August 4)

**POLICY**

Special Session Update

**GOVERNANCE & FINANCE**

Need a Letter of Support from TACHC?  
Does Your Center Need a Nurse Advice Line?

**OUTREACH**

Outreach & Enrollment Annual Conference – Register Now!

**CLINICAL**

Clinical Affairs Webcast: Workplace Violence in Health Care Can't Be the Norm  
Centering Group Care Trainings & Virtual Information Seminars  
March of Dimes Grant Opportunity

**RECRUITMENT & RETENTION**

Would You Like us to Help You Recruit?

**NEWS**

**Registration Now Open! TACHC Annual Conference • October 29-November 1, 2017 La Cantera Resort & Spa • San Antonio, Texas**



**View the TACHC Historical Timeline**



Community Health Centers have been in existence for more than 50 years, and Su Clinica became the first one in Texas in 1971. TACHC was formed in 1983, and under the dynamic leadership of Executive Director José E. Camacho, has been gaining momentum ever since. By viewing [TACHC's historical timeline](#), you can see the whole picture through the present!



**Does Your Local Media Know About National Health Center Week?**

The goal of National Health Center Week is to create public awareness of Health Center programs – the work you do – and how you do it. Whether or not your Health Center is hosting an event, you can still celebrate National Health Center Week by drawing attention to your health center through local media stories — on social media, print media, radio and on television. Questions? Email TACHC's [Courtney Weaver](#). If you have your center's events planned, be sure to post them on [www.healthcenterweek.org](http://www.healthcenterweek.org). Also, make sure to send us photos of your events!

## Welcome CEO Gerrie Teamer-Whitaker, North Texas Area Community Health Centers

We would like to welcome our TACHC Referral, Gerrie Teamer-Whitaker, who has accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer with North Texas Area Community Health Centers in Ft. Worth. Gerrie began her position with the center on August 1, 2017. Gerri brings with her over 30 years of experience in health center operations, behavioral health management and social services management.



## Houston Collaborative of FQHCs Participates in Remaining Uninsured Access to Health Centers (REACH) Research Project

Avenue 360 Health & Wellness in Houston, along with El Centro de Corazón, Vecino Community Health Center, and Spring Branch Community Health Center, make up the "Houston Collaborative," and participated in the Remaining Uninsured Access to Health Centers (REACH) Research Project resulting in a policy brief entitled [Partnership Strategies of Community Health Centers: Building Capacity in Good Times and Bad](#).

## TACHC Employee Anniversaries

Happy "TACHCiversary" to the following:

- Lynn Ford since August 29, 1997
- Verne LaGrega since August 1, 2007
- Corinne Medina since August 8, 2016

Please join us in wishing them a very happy TACHCiversary because they do work so hard!

[Back to Top](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wrap Methodology Training Rescheduled for August 18 in Austin

A Wrap Methodology Training conference will take place August 18, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Sheraton Austin Hotel at The Capitol. The training is intended to answer any final questions, clarify contracting, and any last-minute procedures before centers begin testing their claim submissions. Please plan to be present, as it is impossible to answer individual questions in the short time-frame that we have. Two people from each center are invited to this meeting. Also invited are representatives from the Commission and the Plans. [Click here to register](#).

[Back to Top](#)

## GROUP PURCHASING

### Office of Pharmacy Affairs 340B Registration Window Closes TODAY

The window to register a clinic site to be eligible for 340B pricing closes **TODAY August 4**. When registering, the new site will be eligible for 340B pricing effective October 1. The registration process occurs electronically via the [OPA website](#). Remember that you cannot register a site to be eligible for 340B pricing until it is listed in the EHB. It is critical for any and all clinic sites that are listed in the EHB to also be listed in the database in order for patients seen at the clinic sites to fill their prescriptions with 340B. If you have any questions, please contact [Lynn Ford](#).

[Back to Top](#)

## POLICY

### Special Session Update

Special Session began on July 18 and could last for up to 30 days. Several of the maternal mortality bills passed the House floor on 3rd reading Monday. A few amendments were added to [HB 9](#), [HB 11](#), and [HB 28](#) on

second reading and minor clarifying amendments were added to [HB 11](#) on 3rd reading. As of now, [HB 9](#) (Burkett), [HB 10](#) (Walle), [HB 11](#) (Thierry), and [HB 28](#) have passed the House. [SB 17](#) (Kolkhorst) has passed the Senate and was sent to the House. Representative Burkett put forward HB 9 since its companion, SB 17, has not been referred in the House. This means there are two companion bills -- HB 9 and SB 17 -- that have each passed one chamber and need to make it through the opposite chamber's committee and floor to get to the finish line. It is unclear at this point whether [HB 9](#) or [SB 17](#) will be referred to committee and when. [Here is a summary of amendments](#) added to HB 9, HB 11, and HB 28. For more information on these bills, please contact TACHC's new Director of Policy & External Communications, [Mimi Garcia](#).

[Back to Top](#)

## GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

### Need a Letter of Support from TACHC?

If you would like to request a Letter of Support, signed by TACHC Executive Director, José Camacho, please email [Corinne Medina](#) along with the project abstract. Once the request and abstract have been received, please allow 2-3 business days for turnaround.

### Does Your Center Need a Nurse Advice Line?

If you haven't heard, TACHC recently began offering a Nurse Advice Line through the Group Purchasing program. Following Schmitt-Thompson support protocols, a registered nurse, licensed in the state of Texas, will triage callers when your center doors are closed. This after-hours support service is helping centers significantly alleviate their on-call provider schedules. For some, the nurse advice line is replacing it completely. The service is available 24/7/365, and includes free translation services and unlimited calls. If you would like additional information, please contact [Corinne Medina](#) or [Nancy Gilliam](#).

[Back to Top](#)

## OUTREACH



The banner features the 'mytexas myhealth' logo on the left, with 'mytexas' in pink and 'myhealth' in green. To the right, the text reads 'REGISTER NOW!' in bold, followed by 'TACHC Outreach and Enrollment 2017 Conference' in a smaller font. Below this is the slogan 'Together Towards Tomorrow.' in a blue, italicized font. At the bottom, the dates and location are listed: 'September 27-28 | Bee Cave, TX'.

### TACHC Outreach & Enrollment Annual Conference – Register Now!

Please join us September 27-28, 2017 at the Sonesta Bee Cave - Austin Hotel for the 5th TACHC Outreach & Enrollment Conference: My Texas My Health. Together Towards Tomorrow. The conference will focus on the latest health care policies at both the federal and state levels and what that means for outreach and enrollment activities in health centers, including messages and strategies to respond to any changes. Breakout sessions will highlight an updated session on immigration issues, outreach to Veterans, programs available for women's health and an improved lesson on selecting and comparing Marketplace health plans. There will be opportunities for peer learning and networking for sharing best practices as well. All health center outreach and enrollment staff and supervisors are invited to attend. [Register here](#). Contact [Sonia Lara](#) or [RexAnn Shotwell](#) for more information.

[Back to Top](#)

## CLINICAL

### Clinical Affairs Webcast

[Workplace Violence in Health Care Can't Be the Norm](#) — airs on **Thursday, August 10**, from **1:00 to 2:00 PM CT**,

Violence against medical staff is on the rise in the US. The circumstances, sources, and types of violent behavior vary — everything from verbal threats to deadly shootings. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, around 50% of all workplace assaults occur in health care settings and some [studies](#) put the number even higher. While most health care-related incidents occur in hospital emergency departments or on psychiatric wards, violent acts and threats can happen in any care setting and caregivers are increasingly concerned for their safety. In response to this situation, The Joint Commission, the American Hospital Association, the American Nurses Association, the American Medical Association, and other major health care organizations are developing new violence-prevention resources, highlighting health systems with notable programs and solutions. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) in Boston is one such organization that will share the solutions they've developed thus far. [Click Here To Register for the Webcast](#)



Centering®

### **Centering Group Care Trainings & Virtual Information Seminars**

Group medical visits are a reimbursable model that fits in the space between fee-for-service and value-based payment. Federally Qualified Health Centers nationwide are increasingly using group visits to increase access to care, improve patient health outcomes, reduce emergency room utilization, and increase patient and provider satisfaction. Group medical visits allow for more education, self-management and peer support when compared to traditional one-on-one visits while still being supportive of cash flow.

Centering© is a particular model of group care developed by the [Centering Healthcare Institute \(CHI\)](#), a national non-profit that provides training and implementation support for practice sites. Centering is well established nationwide, with nearly 500 practice sites across the country, including over 100 in FQHCs. The visit schedule and content follow nationally recognized guidelines and there are numerous publications that show that the models reduce costs to the health system, improve health outcomes, and reduce health disparities.

CHI offers facilitation training that can be adapted to multiple models of group medical visits including: CenteringPregnancy® (group prenatal care), CenteringParenting® (well-child care for the first two years of life), and other patient care groups (diabetes, hypertension, pain management, etc.). TACHC and CHI are partnering to bring specific trainings to members who are curious to learn more about Centering facilitated group care, implementation options, and how group medical visits can fit within their practice and organization.

#### **Centering Virtual Information Seminar**

- **Part 1: September 7, 2017 12:00 - 2:00 PM CT**
- **Part 2: September 14, 2017 12:00 - 2:00 PM CT**
- **Part 3: September 21, 2017 12:00 - 2:00 PM CT**
- **Basic Facilitation Workshop** October 28-29, 2017 (prior to Annual Conference) at CommuniCare Health Centers in San Antonio. For more information and to register, contact [Ana Sierra](#).

### **March of Dimes Grant Opportunity**

If you plan on implementing CenteringPregnancy, an opportunity to offset some of the costs may exist through the [2018 March of Dimes Texas Community Grant funding](#). March of Dimes Texas is accepting Letters of Intent (LOI) by **August 25, 2017** as a first step in requesting 2018 grant funding. They will be reviewed by the Texas March of Dimes Maternal & Child Health Committee, who will select applicants to submit a full proposal by September 11, 2017. Full proposals will be due October 20, 2017. If Texas FQHCs are planning on participating in the above trainings and implementing CenteringPregnancy, March of Dimes is encouraging them to submit a Letter of Intent, specifically **highlighting that the costs for implementation are significantly reduced due the partnership of TACHC and CHI.**

A technical assistance conference call will be held on August 7 at 3:00 PM. Dial **1-866-638-1558 Code 205-836-4768** for assistance in completing the letter of intent and for questions regarding the application. If you have general grant questions, please contact [Amy Johnson-Rubio](#) with the March of Dimes. For questions on how this can specifically relate to Centering, please contact [Ana Sierra](#).

## **RECRUITMENT & RETENTION**

### **Would You Like us to Help You Recruit?**

Does your center have openings for clinical providers or executive management that you would like us to help recruit for? [Complete the TACHC online position profile](#). Contact [Danielle Ramos, TACHC Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant](#) for more information.

Did you know that the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up is available to ALL TACHC members and ALL your staff? [Share this link with your health center staff to sign up for the Wrap!](#)

Don't miss out. Follow TACHC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Send **NEWS** about your health center to be considered for inclusion in the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up to TACHC Wrap Editor [Brom Hoban](#).

Sign up to receive the [TACHC Weekly Wrap Up!](#)

TACHC · United States

This email was sent to [aalvarez@tachc.org](mailto:aalvarez@tachc.org). To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).